

222591

003/12/10

1308 Balcome Road  
Mt. Pleasant, SC 29466  
March 9, 2010

March 8, 2010

Public Service Commission of South Carolina  
Attn: Docketing Department  
PO Box 11649  
Columbia, SC 29211

RE: Docket No. 2009-489-E

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Many South Carolinians are out of work or if they are working, they have not seen a pay raise in two sometimes three years. It is very hard for everyone to pay the mortgage, put food on the table and pay utilities.

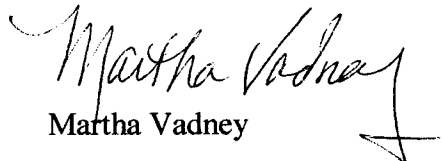
SCE&G was approved for a 2.5 percent rate increase annually for the next decade. The rate hike they are proposing would boost residential power bills for the average SCE&G customer by about \$140.00 a year by July 2011.

Why is it for Duke Power customers, the cost of 1,000 kilowatt hours is about \$93.00 following its recent rate increase? For SCE&G, the same level of power costs \$118.00. The proposed rate boost, if granted, would put SCE&G at \$130.00. SCE&G has higher rates than other investor-owned utilities, as well as publicly owned Santee-Cooper.

**Please do not pass this rate increase.** A 10% rate hike at a time of economic struggle unparalleled since the depression would put many people in jeopardy of not being able to pay their SCE&G bill.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

  
Martha Vadney